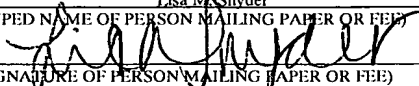


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )  
Lutz Neubauer et al. )  
on CARD-HOLDING DEVICE IN A )  
CARD-PROCESSING APPARATUS )  
Serial No.: National Stage Entry of )  
Int'l Appln. No. : PCT/DE2003/003642 )  
International Filing Date: 3 November 2003 )  
Filed: Simultaneously herewith ) (Docket No. 6400-0043WOUS)

Middletown, Connecticut, May 2, 2005

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

S I R:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows with reference to the Substitute Specification of the International Application, filed simultaneously herewith: